

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims pending in the instant application are numbered 1-30. Claims 1, 7 and 8 presently stand rejected. Claims 2-6 and 9-10 presently stand objected to. The Applicants note with appreciation that claims 11-30 are presently allowed. The Applicant respectfully requests that the amendments be entered and that the instant application be reconsidered in view of the following remarks.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections

In the July 12, 2005 Office Action, claims 1, 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Grudin, US Publication No. US 2003/0021302 A1 (hereinafter Grudin) in view of Vossler et al., US Patent No. 5,408,492 (hereinafter Vossler).

In the July 12, 2005 Office Action, claims 2-6 and 8-10 are objected to as being dependent on rejected independent base claim 1, but are indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In order to expedite a timely allowance, independent claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of conditionally allowed claim 2 and claim 2 has been canceled without prejudice. The Applicants understand that claim 1 as amended should now be allowable. Dependent claims 3-10 are dependent on claim 1 and are therefore patentable by virtue of their dependence.

If there is a deficiency in fees, please charge our Deposit Acct. No. 02-2666.

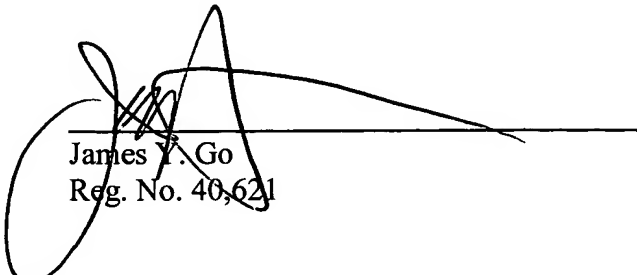
The Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date:

10-11-05


James Y. Go
Reg. No. 40,621

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026
(206) 292-8600

FIRST CLASS CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

on October 11, 2005

Date of Deposit

Yuko Tanaka

Name of Person Mailing Correspondence

Y. Tanaka

Signature

October 11, 2005

Date